GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4888
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2001
COTTON AND SUGARCANE GROWERS
RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has been requested to help cotton and sugarcane growers of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, details thereof alongwith the main demands of cotton and sugarcane growers of the State of Maharashtra; and

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y.NAIK)

(a)to(c): The Government of Maharashtra have sent proposal for the development ofcotton and sugarcane in the State for the year 2001-2002 keeping in view the demands and problems faced by the farmers. The major problems faced in the cultivation of these crops includes supply of seeds, need for water saving devices like sprinklers, menace of diseases and pests, information and training on production technologies and supply of sprayers/implements.

In order to increase the production of cotton, Government of India is assisting variousStates including Maharashtra through Mini Mission - II under Technology Mission on Cotton.Under this Scheme assistance is provided for the transfer of technology through field demonstration on production technology, integrated pest management as well as training of extension workers and farmers. Besides, assistance is also provided for the concessional supply of inputs like seed, sprayers, pheromone traps, bio-agents, and sprinklers / drip irrigation units. For the implementation of the scheme during 2001-2002, Government of India has allocated Rs.1056.51 lakhs to Maharashtra consisting of Rs.829.88 lakh as Central share and Rs. 226.63 lakh as State share.

The erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Scheme on sugarcane has now been subsumedunder Macro Management Mode of Agriculture Development with effect from October, 2000 giving flexibility to States to adopt activities to their needs and suiting to their agro-climatic conditions. Under Macro Management Mode, a sugarcane development scheme in VidarbhaRegion is being implemented by the State Government of Maharashtra with a total outlay ofRs.600 lakh for the year 2001-2002. The major activities of the scheme include transfer of technology, seed production, training of extension workers and farmers as well as supply of green manure, gypsum, in-situ trash compost and farm implements.